

passage during non-flood flows. Some possible sites include Chehalis River near Mellen Street, Salzer Creek, Chehalis River downstream of the South Fork, the lower South Fork, and Chehalis River upstream of the South Fork.

5. *Levee Alternative*. This alternative consists of a levee system to protect Bucoda, Centralia, Chehalis, and the immediate urbanized area.

6. *Non-Structural Alternative Measures*. This alternative would include such measures as such as flood warning system improvements, structure relocation, structure floodproofing, structure raising, bridge/road/railroad modifications, etc.

Scoping

Public involvement will be sought during scoping and preparation of the EIS in accordance with NEPA procedures. A public scoping process has been started to clarify issues of major concern, identify any information sources that might be available to analyze and evaluate impacts, and obtain public input on the range and acceptability of alternatives. This Notice of Intent formally commences the scoping process under NEPA. As part of the scoping process, all affected Federal, State and local agencies, Native American Nations, and other interested private organizations, including environmental groups, are invited to comment on the scope of the EIS. Comments are requested concerning project alternatives, probable significant environmental impacts, and permits or other approvals that may be required.

The Corps has identified the following key areas so far to be analyzed in depth in the draft EIS:

- (1) Flooding Characteristics
- (2) Impacts to Fish and Wildlife Habitat
- (3) Impacts to Wetlands
- (4) Impacts to Riparian Areas
- (5) Impacts to Cultural and Historical Resources
- (6) Social and Economic Concerns
- (7) Transportation
- (8) Hazardous Materials

Scoping Meeting

Opportunity to comment will also be available at the project scoping meeting that has yet to be scheduled. Details of the meeting time and location will be announced in the local media. Notices will be sent to all agencies, organizations and individuals on the EIS mailing list.

Availability of the Draft EIS

The Corps expects to complete preparation of the draft EIS and have

review copies of it available by December 2000.

James M. Riggsby,

Colonel, Corps of Engineers, District Engineer.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Intent to Prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Kennedy-Bechara Segment of the Authorized Río Puerto Nuevo (Puerto Rico) Flood Control Project

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is finalizing the design for the Kennedy-Bechara segment of the existing Federal flood control project at Río Puerto Neuvo, located in San Juan and Guaynabo, Puerto Rico, and is considering several alternatives to provide the authorized 100 year level of protection in this area. New alternatives have been developed that may eliminate the need for pumps or other mechanical drainage. A Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (D-SEIS) will be prepared for the project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about the proposed action and Draft EIS can be answered by Ms. Barbara Cintron, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, Planning Division, P.O. Box 4970, Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019; Telephone 904-232-1692.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. The proposed action consists of design changes to one segment of the Congressionally authorized Río Puerto Nuevo Federal flood control project, located in San Juan, Puerto Rico. This large project was documented in a Final Environmental Impact Statement in 1984, and has been under construction since 1995. Detailed construction design is completed in stages, following the guidance of the General Design memorandum (GDM) published in 1991, and an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact (EA/FONSI) published in 1993. At this time alternative detailed designs are being considered for the Kennedy-Bechara area. New data and a re-evaluation of previous designs for the area led to development of new alternatives for this segment. Alternatives so far developed

include the "base plan" as discussed in the GDM, and three additional options, two involving gravity drainage and one involving pumped drainage.

2. Alternatives under consideration involve spatial and structural variations in project features that would convey storm runoff to the receiving body (San Juan Bay). Associated with each alternative, there may be tradeoffs in the project cost, operation and maintenance requirements, and adverse effects on natural and manmade features of the environment, including effects on wetlands and other natural and cultural resources.

3. A scoping letter will be used to invite comments on alternatives and issues from Federal, Commonwealth and local agencies, and other interested private organizations and individuals. A public scoping meeting has not been scheduled at this time but may be requested and will be scheduled if the degree of public interest appears to warrant it.

4. The D-SEIS will analyze issues related to flood reduction potential, water quality, wetlands impacts, excavated material disposal alternatives, infrastructure effects, cultural resources impacts, socio-economic impacts and effects on the San Juan Bay Estuary System.

5. The alternative flood control features will be reviewed under the provisions of appropriate laws and regulations, including the Endangered Species Act, the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Management and Conservation Act.

6. The D-SEIS is expected to be available for public review in the last quarter of Calendar Year 1999.

James C. Duck,

Chief, Planning Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Determination to Establish the Advanced Scientific Computing Advisory Committee

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, and Title 41, Code of Federal Regulations, Subpart 101-6, Final Rule on Federal Advisory Committee Management), I hereby certify the Advanced Scientific Computing Advisory Committee is necessary and in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Department of